

Fact Sheet

EXHIBIT 9
DATE 2/10/11
HB 390

The AKC registry cannot guarantee that animals are healthy, well-bred, or humanely treated.

- AKC has no rules that disallow puppy mills from registering dogs with them.
- AKC does not have the ability to enforce any laws.
- If a breeder is found to be out of compliance, the only penalty available to the AKC is suspension of that breeder's ability to register dogs with the AKC. There is nothing stopping this breeder from registering dogs with other breed clubs after an AKC suspension.
- AKC inspection reports are kept private, with no public transparency.

The AKC is financially beholden to the puppy mill industry.

In 2001, facing a boycott of its registry from the Missouri Pet Breeders Association due to efforts to institute standards of care, increase inspections, and ensure the parentage of dogs in its registry, the AKC created its **High Volume Breeders Committee (HVBC)**, with a mission "to assess the current status of high volume breeding kennels and their role in, and impact on, the AKC registry; to define the appropriate relationship between high volume breeding kennels and the AKC, and to recommend to the AKC Board of Directors actions to implement the committee's findings."

- The HVBC visited and praised the Hunte Corporation, the nation's largest high volume broker of puppy mill dogs. Founder Andrew Hunte was invited to sit in the AKC box at the famous Westminster Dog Show, and there is now a direct link from the Hunte Corporation to the AKC's website.
- The HVBC also visited and praised Petland, the nation's largest retailer of puppy mill dogs. In 2004, the AKC entered into and, after protest from dog lovers, backed out of an undisclosed contractual arrangement with Petland. The AKC offered quickly expiring discount registration coupons clearly aimed at the most frequent breeders.
- The AKC removed the "do not buy puppies from a pet shop" tag from its website.
- The AKC is now a platinum member of the Missouri Pet Breeders, the very organization which boycotted the AKC for attempting to crack down on puppy mills in the 1990's.
- In 2006, the AKC registered 870,000 individual dogs and 416,000 litters, and brought in \$72 million dollars in total revenues. Well over \$30 million in revenues were from dog registrations alone. An estimated 80% of this profit comes from puppy mills



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Abby



Abby was purchased in Michigan after her owner answered a classified ad for AKC-registered Labrador Retrievers. Her owner was given only a handwritten vaccination record at purchase.

Within a few days, Abby became gravely ill and tested positive for Parvovirus. She also had a severe urinary infection, ear infection and roundworms. The veterinarian felt she had only a 30 percent chance of recovery. After several days of intensive care hospitalization, Abby beat the odds and survived Parvo. Her family sued her breeder in small claims court. He continues to sell AKC-registered dogs through the classified ads.



Feb, 2009 – Thornton's Kennels, NC.

The HSUS and local authorities removed nearly 300 animals from small dirty wire cages -- some several to a cage -- in buildings lacking proper heat and ventilation. The lack of ventilation had created such strong ammonia smell that in some cases caused the animals' eyes to swell shut. Ammonia fumes that strong can also cause skin infections, she added. In some cases the animals had been in the cages for up to eight years. Ms. Thornton self-identifies as an AKC

breeder on her website and bills of sale.



Mar, 2009 - Alexander Pristatskiy, PA.

Pristatskiy was charged with cruelty and running an unlicensed kennel after police removed 46 Yorkshire terriers from the basement of an abandoned home. Pristatskiy had advertised the dogs for sale in local newspapers as American Kennel Club registered. The AKC, to its credit, immediately started the process to suspend Pristatskiy, but only after local authorities intervened. The AKC made a point of telling local media they would only suspend Pristatskiy upon conviction. Pristatskiy plead guilty.

Dec, 2007 – Janie Conyers, NC

Ms. Conyers reached a plea agreement and agreed to never keep dogs again after 112 dogs were seized from her filthy, feces-encrusted and cockroach ridden home. Ms. Conyers, an AKC champion breeder, was subsequently suspended for 10 years by the AKC – again, only after local authorities intervened and won a conviction.



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